CHARGE NUMBER: 4010

PROJECT TITLE: Brand Modifications

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PERIOD COVERED: July, 1980

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I. BRAND MODIFICATIONS

A. FTC Tar Reductions

1. Marlboro

Cigarettes for an expanded HTI test of a 14 mg Marlboro KS versus the current 16 mg product are being remade due to tar deliveries below target. Modeling on the Marlboro LS and 100's reduced tar versions are continuing.

2. B & H Lights

Cigarettes for a POL testof a 9 mg B & H Lights menthol product are being remade due to unsatisfactory analytical results.

Several models for a 9 mg B & H Lights regular product have been tested but were all judged different from the control by the flavor panel. Several other models are in the process of being tested. The same blend as used in the 9 mg menthol product is included.

3. Merit 100's

Models of Merit 100's with a 9 mg tar delivery are awaiting analytical results. If the tar deliveries are satisfactory, subjective testing will follow.

4. Marlboro Lights

Models of Marlboro Lights 85 with 9 mg FTC tar delivery are awaiting SEF and Flavor evaluation. One model has been found to be acceptable in all aspects but harshness.

100 mm models are being evaluated in SEF. If an acceptable model is found, a POL test will be issued in August.

5. Parliament 100's

Models of Parliament Lights 100's with 9 mg FTC tar have been made and are awaiting SEF and Flavor evaluation.

6. Saratoga Lights

A new filter tow item was incorporated into additional test models of Saratoga 100's as requested by Operations Services. These models with lowered tar deliveries and reduced cigarette RTD's are presently awaiting analytical results.

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B. Filter Length Changes

1. Virginia Slims Menthol

The Virginia Slims menthol model with the 27.5 mm filter containing 3X menthol in the filter plasticizer has achieved parity subjectively with the current product with the 25 mm filter. Preliminary specifications have been forwarded to Operations Services.

2. Marlboro Lights and Merit

POL tests for both Marlboro Lights and Merit with 27 mm filter versus the current products with 25 mm filters are awaiting subjective evaluation in POL testing.

C. CO Reduction

National POL tests have been requested comparing production Merit 85 cigarettes versus a low CO delivery Merit and a low CO delivery Merit with added flavors. These tests will be shipped upon completion of analytical, SEF and Flavor Group evaluation.

II. PERFORATION

A. Laser Perforation

Calibration experiments for the optical porosity monitor showed good correlation between pressure drop and light intensity. However, varying sensitivity functions were observed from detector to detector. A different detector configuration is being explored.

Cigarettes were made to test the feasibility of the laser ramping project. These cigarettes are currently under evaluation.

B. Parliament Lights 100

Hard mouthpiece papers to be used for the reduced tar delivery models of Parliament Lights were successfully perforated with the laser system at the Midlothian Engineering Center. Models are scheduled to be made in Manufacturing using these papers.

III. TIPPING EVALUATIONS

A. Lip Release

A SEF test involving several white tipping papers showed detectable differences between papers with and without a nitrocellulose coating. Cambridge cigarettes using nitrocellulose-coated tipping have been made and will be tested subjectively in-house.

B. Filter Flare-Up

Recent testing indicates that the cause for flare-up can be narrowed down to the type of tipping paper used. Samples have been submitted for

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chemical analysis to determine which coatings are causing or retarding flare-up.

C. Hot Melt Tipping

Various PA8 tipper experiments with tipping papers precoated with hot melt adhesives showed unsatisfactory adhesion results. Tipping with a thicker coating of hot melt glue with a lower melting point is scheduled for testing.

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